

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 USIA-15 PA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /039 W

----- 077179

R 250759Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1548

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0756

TO COMMERCE BIC/OIM SAD FROM FIEDLER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, XA, CG

SUBJECT: RAILROAD EQUIPMENT TRADE MISSION: LUSAKA WRAPUP

1. TM TEAM ARRIVED LUSAKA ON SUNDAY APRIL 20 BY TRAIN FROM LUBUMBASHI. AFTER BREAKFAST ON TRAIN WE WERE PICKED UP BY RAY JORGENSEN AND TAKEN TO HIS HOME FOR COFFEE AND BRIEFING WHILE WAITING FOR HOTEL ROOMS TO BE VACATED. NO OTHER ACTIVITIES SUNDAY.

2. MONDAY AM BRIEFING FOR TM AT EMBASSY BY CHARGE, POLITICAL OFFICER AND COMMERCIAL OFFICER. LUNCHEON AT NOON HOSTED BY CHARGE AND MRS. HARVEY F. NELSON FOR TM, LOCAL BUSINESSMEN AND MINISTRY OFFICIALS. TM MEMBERS HAD INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS DURING AFTERNOON. LARGE RECEPTION FOR TEAM, LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PRESS HOSTED BY R.C. JORGENSEN ON MONDAY EVENING.

3. TUESDAY THE TEAM TRAVELED TO KABWE AND MET WITH THE
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MANAGEMENT OF THE ZAMBIA RAILWAY CO. VERY FRANK

ECHANGE OCCURED BETWEEN RR OFFICIALS AND TEAM. EMPHASIS WAS ON ON PROBLEMS OF TIME AND DEPENDABILITY OF SPARE PARTS DELIVERIES. OTHER PROBLEMS DISCUSSED INCLUDED DELIVERY AND FINANCING OF CURRENT ORDER G.E. LOCOMOTIVES. TEAM HOSTED LUNCH FOR OFFICIALS AND RETURNED TO LUSAKA.

4. WEDNESDAY TEAM ATTENDED MEETING ORGANIZED BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CHAIRED BY C. BANDA, UNDERSECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF POWER, TRANSPORT AND WORKS. REPRESENTED WERE MINISTRIES OF PLANNING AND FINANCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COMMERCE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. DEPENDABILITY OF SUPPLIES OF SPARE PARTS AND FINANCE WERE PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE PROBLEMS OF G.E. LOCOMOTIVES DELIVERY, AND POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES FOR MANUFACTURING IN ZAMBIA. TM HAD INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS FRIDAY PM.

5. A PRESS REPORT ON APRIL 22 STATING THAT GRZ OFFICIALS WOULD AVOID CONTACT WITH TRADE MISSION BECAUSE OF ALLEGED SNUB OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN WASHINGTON CAUSED TM SOME UNEASY MOMENTS (REFTEL).#HOWEVER, THROUGH ENERGETIC EFFORTS OF EMBASSY STAFF DIFFICULTY WAS EVERTED AND ALL SCHEDULED MEETINGS WERE HELD IN A VERY CORDIAL ATOMSPHERE.

6. TEAM WELL SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF VISIT TO LUSAKA, AND DEPARTED ON SCHEDULE ON THURSDAY AT 1000 VIA QZ 602 FOR GABORONE.

7. TM EXPENSES WILL BE WITHIN TOTAL BUDGET.
NELSON

NOTE BY OC/T: #REFTEL OMITTED.

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